Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph on page 16, lines 22-32, with the following amended paragraph:

The present invention generally provides peptides, comprising the sequence

$$R_1\text{-}X_1\text{-}X_2\text{-}X_3\text{-}X_4\text{-}R_2 \quad (I)$$

wherein ~~X1 is selected from the group consisting of N, Q, D and S; X2 is selected from the group consisting of V, I and L; X3 is selected from the group consisting of R and K; and X4 is selected from the group consisting of V, I, L and F;~~ the X_1-X_2-X_3-X_4 sequence is selected from the group consisting of

N-V-R-V, N-V-R-I, N-V-R-L, N-V-R-F (SEQ ID NOS: 55-57 & 51),

N-V-K-V, N-V-K-I, N-V-K-L, N-V-K-F (SEQ ID NOS: 58-61),

N-I-R-V, N-I-R-I, N-I-R-L, N-I-R-F (SEQ ID NOS: 62-65),

N-I-K-V, N-I-K-I, N-I-K-L, N-I-K-F (SEQ ID NOS: 66-69),

N-L-R-V, N-L-R-I, N-L-R-L, N-L-R-F (SEQ ID NOS: 70-73),

N-L-K-V, N-L-K-I, N-L-K-L, N-L-K-F (SEQ ID NOS: 74-77),

Q-V-R-V, Q-V-R-I, Q-V-R-L, Q-V-R-F (SEQ ID NOS: 78-80 & 53),

Q-V-K-V, Q-V-K-I, Q-V-K-L, Q-V-K-F (SEQ ID NOS: 81-83),

Q-I-R-V, Q-I-R-I, Q-I-R-L, Q-I-R-F (SEQ ID NOS: 84-87),

Q-I-K-V, Q-I-K-I, Q-I-K-L, Q-I-K-F (SEQ ID NOS: 88-91),

Q-L-R-V, Q-L-R-I, Q-L-R-L, Q-L-R-F (SEQ ID NOS: 92-95),

Q-L-K-V, Q-L-K-I, Q-L-K-L, Q-L-K-F (SEQ ID NOS: 96-99),

D-V-R-V, D-V-R-I, D-V-R-L, D-V-R-F (SEQ ID NOS: 100-102 & 54),

D-V-K-V, D-V-K-I, D-V-K-L, D-V-K-F (SEQ ID NOS: 103-106),

D-I-R-V, D-I-R-I, D-I-R-L, D-I-R-F (SEQ ID NOS: 107-110),

D-I-K-V, D-I-K-I, D-I-K-L, D-I-K-F (SEQ ID NOS: 111-114),

D-L-R-V, D-L-R-I, D-L-R-L, D-L-R-F (SEQ ID NOS: 115-118),

D-L-K-V, D-L-K-I, D-L-K-L, D-L-K-F (SEQ ID NOS: 119-122),

S-V-R-V, S-V-R-I, S-V-R-L, S-V-R-F (SEQ ID NOS: 123-125 & 52),

S-V-K-V, S-V-K-I, S-V-K-L, S-V-K-F (SEQ ID NOS: 126-129),

S-I-R-V, S-I-R-I, S-I-R-L, S-I-R-F (SEQ ID NOS: 130-133),

S-I-K-V, S-I-K-I, S-I-K-L, S-I-K-F (SEQ ID NOS: 134-137),

S-L-R-V, S-L-R-I, S-L-R-L, S-L-R-F (SEQ ID NOS: 138-141),

S-L-K-V, S-L-K-I, S-L-K-L, S-L-K-F (SEQ ID NOS: 142-145);

R1 is a hydrogen or a peptide of 1 to 6 amino acids, an acyl or an aryl group; and R2 is a peptide of 1 to 3 amino acids, a hydroxide or an amide. In one embodiment of the invention, peptides having the sequence FQGVLQNVRFVF (SEQ ID NO:6) or FRGCVRNLRLSR (SEQ ID NO:12) are specifically excluded. In one embodiment, the peptides contain from 4 to 12 amino acids, i.e., has a length of 4 to 12 amino acid residues. In one embodiment, the peptides comprise additional residues, e.g., typically up to a length of 15, 20, 25, or 40 residues that includes the core sequence (I).